

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02

SS-15 ICA-11 ACDA-12 /100 W

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R 251633Z AUG 78

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2989

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 03307

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, UNGA, KN, KS

SUBJECT: KOREAN QUESTION AT THE 33RD GA

SUMMARY: SRI LANKA TELLS US NORTH KOREA DEFINITELY WILL NOT RAISE KOREA QUESTION AT IMPENDING GA. END SUMMARY.

1. THE SRI LANKA PERMREP, FERNANDO, WHO IS ALSO CHAIRMAN OF THE NON-ALIGNED COORDINATING BUREAU IN NEW YORK, MENTIONED TO LEONARD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, THAT THE NORTH KOREANS HAD BEEN EXTRAORDINARILY ACCOMMODATING AT BELGRADE AND THAT HE HAD EXPRESSED APPRECIATION TO THEM FOR THEIR WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT HIS POSITION THAT THERE SHOULD BE NONE OF THEIR USUAL VITUPERATION OF THE US IN THE BELGRADE DOCUMENTS. FERNANDO HOPED THAT THIS PRE-SAGED NOT HAVING TO DEAL WITH THE KOREA QUESTION AT THE NEXT GA.

2. ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, FERNANDO AGAIN GOT IN TOUCH WITH LEONARD AND RECOUNTED THE FOLLOWING TO HIM. SEVERAL DAYS AGO FERNANDO HAD CALLED ON THE NORTH KOREAN CHARGE
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TO REPEAT TO HIM THE COMMENTS HE HAD MADE TO THEIR DELEGATION IN BELGRADE. NORTH KOREANS HAD MADE NO SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT IN THAT SESSION. THE NORTH KOREAN AMB SUBSEQUENTLY RETURNED AND FERNANDO ARRANGED TO CALL ON HIM TO MAKE HIS POINT ONCE MORE. AMB HAN SI HAE HAD SAID THAT HE COMPLETELY AGREED WITH FERNANDO THAT IT WAS NOT DESIRABLE TO HAVE A DEBATE ON THE KOREAN QUESTION IN

THE NEXT GA AND HE WAS ADVISING PYONGYANG TO THIS EFFECT. FERNANDO SAID THAT WAS FINE BUT WHAT WOULD PYONGYANG'S REACTION BE. HAN HAD RESPONDED THAT HE WAS COMPLETELY CONFIDENT HIS ADVICE WOULD BE ACCEPTED IN PYONGYANG AND TOLD FERNANDO HE COULD PROCEED WITH THE NON-ALIGNED GROUP AND OTHERS ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE NORTH KOREANS WOULD NOT RAISE THE KOREAN QUESTION. FERNANDO HAS NOW DONE SO. AMONG THOSE HE HAS INFORMED OF THIS NORTH KOREAN POSITION IS ROK AMB MOON. LEONARD ASSURED FERNANDO THAT HE HAD NO DOUBT THAT THE US WOULD PREFER NOT TO SEE THE QUESTION RAISED AND WOULD ADVISE WASHINGTON OF FERNANDO'S ACTIVITIES.

3. WE HAVE NOT YET HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THIS WITH THE ROK MISSION BUT WILL DO SO WITHOUT DELAY. IN FACT, IT IS SOMEWHAT SURPRISING THAT AMB MOON HAS NOT YET BEEN IN TOUCH WITH US. YOUNG

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